IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 2, and amend claims 1 and 3-7 as follows:

1.   (Currently Amended) A contents processing apparatus comprising:

a contents information storage that stores contents, a contents management file for managing licenses for the contents, [[and]] plug-in modules for executing processing of the contents, and a plug-in management file for defining executable operative functions of the plug-in modules, the contents management file managing operations according to the contents, and the plug-in management file managing operative functions according to the plug-in modules;

a plug-in setting device that [[sets]] installs plug-in modules corresponding to the contents to be processed;

an operation recognition device that recognizes unlimited identifies permitted operations relating to execution of processing of the contents to be processed from the contents management file corresponding to the contents to be processed;

a plug-in function permission device that permits use of functions corresponding to the unlimited permitted operations recognized by said operation recognition device among functions of the plug-in modules [[set]] installed by said plug-in setting device, and permits use of the plug-in modules installed by said plug-in setting device according to the contents of the plug-in management file; [[and]]

a contents processing execution device that executes processing of the contents to be processed, according to the functions of the plug-in modules permitted by said plug-in function permission device; and

an update device that updates the plug-in management file.

2.   (Canceled)

3.   (Currently Amended) A contents processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the

contents processing apparatus is ~~connected~~ coupled to an external apparatus via a communication

network, and the contents management file is obtained from the external apparatus via the

communication network.

4.   (Currently Amended) A contents processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the

contents management file is rewritable and ~~capable of being~~ is obtained independently of

contents corresponding thereto.

5.   (Currently Amended) A contents processing apparatus according to claim 1 [[2]],

wherein the plug-in management file is rewritable and ~~capable of being~~ is obtained independently

of contents corresponding thereto.

6.   (Currently Amended) A contents processing apparatus according to claim 1 [[2]],

wherein the contents are inhibited from being used when there is no contents management file

corresponding to the contents, and are also inhibited from being processed when there is no plug-

in management file corresponding to the contents.

7.   (Currently Amended) A storage medium having encoded thereon a [[A]] contents

processing program including instructions which when executed by a contents processing

apparatus including a contents information storage that stores contents, a contents management

file for managing licenses for the contents, [[and]] plug-in modules for executing processing of

the contents, and a plug-in management file for defining executable operative functions of the

plug-in modules, the contents management file managing operations according to the contents,

and the plug-in management file managing operative functions according to the plug-in modules,

causes ~~comprising~~:

~~a plug-in setting module for setting~~ installing, by a plug-in setting module, plug-in modules corresponding to contents to be processed;

~~an operation recognition module for recognizing unlimited~~ identifying, by an operation recognition module, permitted operations ~~regarding~~ relating to execution of processing of the contents to be processed from the contents management file corresponding to the contents to be processed;

~~a plug-in function permission module for~~ permitting, by a plug-in function permission module, use of functions corresponding to the ~~unlimited~~ permitted operations recognized by said operation recognition module among functions of the plug-in modules [[set]] installed by said plug-in setting module, and permitting use of the plug-in setting module according to the contents of the plug-in management file; [[and]]

~~a contents processing execution module for~~ executing, by a contents processing execution module, processing of the contents to be processed, according to the functions of the plug-in modules permitted by said plug-in function permission module; and

updating, by an update module, the plug-in management file.

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